Chapter 4 Appetizers, Etc.
This bar makes me feel like I'm running a day care, just like the last one...
...YES.
SO, RIYUKO, YOU TOOK OVER YOUR AUNT'S LICENSE TO RUN THIS PLACE?

AH, IT'S COLD!
SEXY, GIMME YOUR POCKET!
HEE HEE!
HOW'VE YOU BEEN SPENDING YOUR NEW YEAR'S DAY?
I ATE ENOUGH MOCHI EARLIER TO MAKE ME FAT.
LET'S GO PLAY ON THAT JUNGLE GYM!
ARE YOU IN GRADE SCHOOL?

Lyrics: "Wherever you are Today, NaNaNaNaNa"

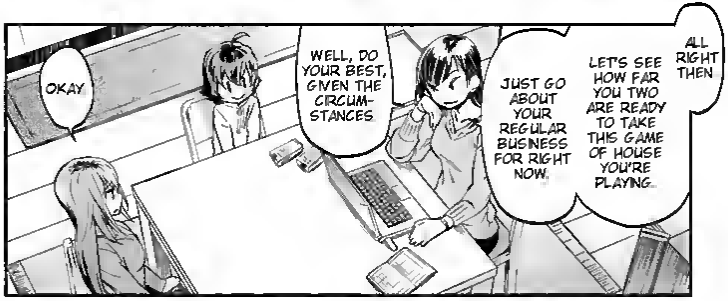
MY AUNT'S COMING OVER TODAY.
I CAN'T STAND HER!
YOUR AUNT? HOW'S SHE RELATED TO YOU?
WHAT IS IT?
.....
DON'T YOU WANNA GO HOME?
YEAH, BUT I CAN'T CALL HER 'SIS' OR ANYTHING OR ELSE SHE'LL HIT ME.
ISN'T THAT A LITTLE EXTREME?
MY DAD'S SISTER
AND SHE'S STILL JUST 25.
THAT'S SO YOUNG!
SHE'S MORE LIKE YOUR SISTER!
"WHAT'S SHE LIKE"
D
M
D
M
Aunt
S
K
SHE'S A FORMER GYARU, AND A DELINQUENT, AND SHE'S GOT AN ULTRA SHORT TEMPER.
SO SINCE SHE'S YOUR DAD'S LITTLE SISTER, THAT MEANS SHE'S NOT RELATED TO SHINOBU BY BLOOD AT ALL, RIGHT?
WHAT'S SHE LIKE?
AND THAT WOMAN'S ALWAYS SO SWEET TO SHINOBU, TOO.
'THAT WOMAN', HUH?

YOU DIDN'T DRAG IN ANY GUYS IN WITH YOU, HUH?
NO, I DIDN'T!

HUH?
AREN'T YOU INTERESTED IN GUYS?
BACK WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I REMEMBER WE WOULD...
Don't listen to her! Holy Silent Wall!!
AUNT RIYUKO, DON'T TALK ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT WITH HIM AROUND!
Huh? What was that? I can't hear
CALL ME RI. YU. KO. GOT IT?
ビキッ
ビキッ
!?
OKAY RIYUKO.
HI!!
AH, SORRY, SORRY!

I'M NOT SCARY! RIGHT, SHINOBU?
R-RIGHT
HAVE YOU GROWN AGAIN?
UM, A BIT
ANYTHING BEEN ON YOUR MIND LATELY~?
NO

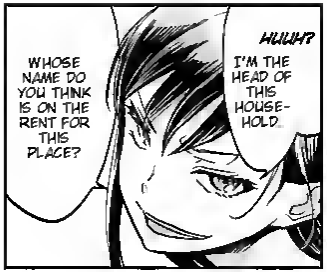
IF KYOKO'S SMOKING OR DRINKING OR ANYTHING, MAKE SURE TO LET ME KNOW
I'M NOT!
YOU MEAN YOU'RE THAT OLD AND YOU DON'T SMOKE, YOU DON'T DRINK, AND YOU DON'T HAVE A GUY?
DON'T YOU EVER DO ANYTHING FUN?
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?


ALL RIGHT THEN
LET'S SEE HOW FAR YOU TWO ARE READY TO TAKE THIS GAME OF HOUSE YOU'RE PLAYING
JUST GO ABOUT YOUR REGULAR BUSINESS FOR RIGHT NOW
WELL, DO YOUR BEST, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES
OKAY

YOU KNOW, AUNT RIYUKO, WE DON'T REALLY NEED YOUR HELP-
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE USUALLY SO STUBBORN, BUT THE MINUTE YOU GET FLUSTERED, YOU LET ME TAKE CONTROL AND BEAT YOU INTO SHAPE
RI. YU. KO.
I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU GET AWAY WITH BEING CHEEKY, YOU BRAT
GOT IT?
YEAH

You're so spoiled, Riyuko!
Oh, brother...
BUT IN THE END, BROTHER... YOUR FATHER, BECAME AN ADULT WHO LOOKED AFTER ME
!?
IN MY CASE, AFTER MY PARENTS DIED, I TOOK TO THE LIFE OF A DELINQUENT WITH EVERYTHING I HAD.
SO NOW, IT'S MY TURN TO TAKE CARE OF YOU TWO!
I BET SHE'LL KNOCK YOU OUT IF YOU ASK
HUH? THAT PANEL WHOSE IMAGINATION IS THAT?

YOU DRAGGED ME THROUGH THE MUD AND TOLD ALL THE OTHER FAMILIES I WAS A DELINQUENT, AND THAT YOU'D BE BETTER OFF LIVING BY YOURSELVES
YEAH, I COULD HEAR
SO HERE'S A PIECE OF VALUABLE ADVICE, FROM ME TO YOU
YOU WERE WRONG WHEN YOU SAID I WAS A DELINQUENT
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE AN ADULT
OKAY?
YOU TWO ARE STILL BRATS
THERE ARE DEPENDABLE ADULTS OUT THERE, SO DEPEND ON THEM
IF YOU FEEL LIKE CRYING, THEN GO AHEAD AND CRY
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL JUST MAKE IT HARDER ON YOURSELVES
'KAY, THAT'S ENOUGH PREACHING OUT OF ME
YOUR DAD ALWAYS SAID GETTING YOUR HEAD RUBBED WOULD KEEP YOU HAPPY, RIGHT?


WHOSE NAME DO YOU THINK IS ON THE RENT FOR THIS PLACE?
HUH?
I'M THE HEAD OF THIS HOUSE-HOLD.

I BROUGHT OVER SOME INGREDIENTS, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT PLENTY IN STOCK.
YOU'RE EVEN CHECK-ING THE FRIDGE...?
HMM, LOOKS LIKE YOU TWO HAVE BEEN EATING WELL.

DON'T YOU DRINK ENOUGH AT WORK ALREADY?
WELL, I'M NOT GONNA DO IT OUT-SIDE.

HUH? YOU'RE GONNA DRINK IN HERE?
SO, IT'S ONLY PROPER FOR YOU TO MAKE ME A SNACK TO GO WITH MY DRINK.

YOU THINK SO?

OH.
MY BAR'S A PLACE FOR THE CUSTOMERS TO COME AND DRINK, NOT FOR ME TO DRINK.

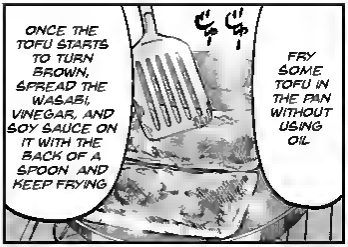
THE STUFF I DRINK AT WORK AND THE STUFF I DRINK ON MY OWN TIME ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!
IT'D JUST BE A WASTE IF I DRANK ALL THE BAR'S EXPENSIVE ALCOHOL, WOULDN'T IT?
OH...

AH!
UNTIL YOU FINISH THE SNACKS, I'M GONNA PLAY WITH SHINOBU
SHINOBU, PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR BEING SUCH A POWER-LESS SISTER...

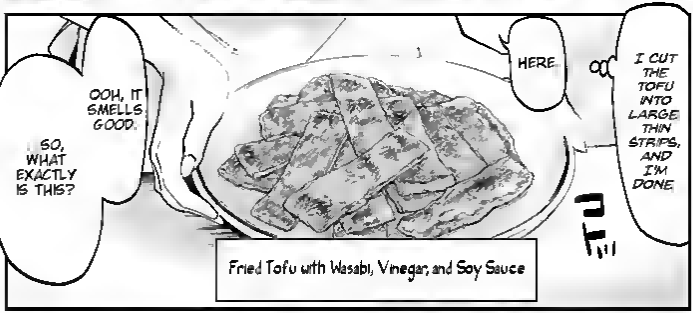
I'M FINE WITH WHATEVER YOU MAKE, BUT HURRY UP AND GET STARTED, OKAY?
ALL THE FOOD SHE BROUGHT IS ONLY GOOD FOR MAKING SNACKS!
SQUID, CHEESE, ANCHOVIES, DRIED SEAWEED...

HM, SO WHAT'S SOMETHING I CAN MAKE RIGHT AWAY?
THIS NEEDS TO SIT FOR ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES THOUGH...

I'LL START PRE-PARING THE MAIN DISH.
PUT RAW CHICKEN LEGS IN A BOWL AND PICKLE THEM IN SAKE, SOY SAUCE, SALT, AND RED CHILI POWDER.
MAKE SURE TO RUB THE MIX IN WELL.


FRY SOME TOFU IN THE PAN WITHOUT USING OIL
ONCE THE TOFU STARTS TO TURN BROWN, SPREAD THE WASABI, VINEGAR, AND SOY SAUCE ON IT WITH THE BACK OF A SPOON AND KEEP FRYING

Your body's really warm, could you stop hugging me?
I'LL GO AHEAD AND MIX WASABI, SOY SAUCE, AND VINEGAR TOGETHER...

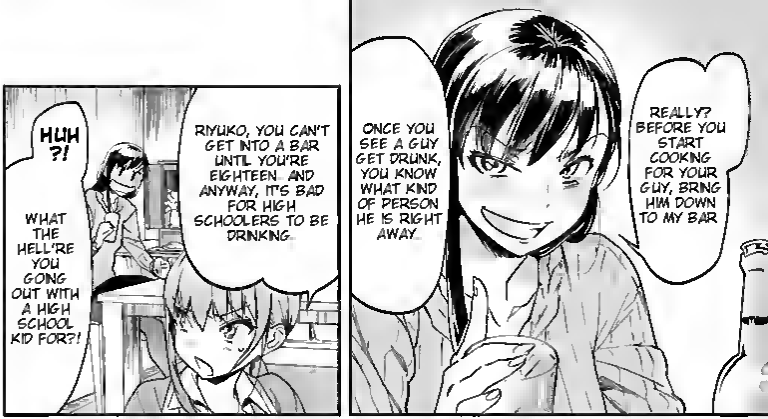

I CUT THE TOFU INTO LARGE THIN STRIPS, AND I'M DONE
HERE
OOH, IT SMELLS GOOD.
SO, WHAT EXACTLY IS THIS?
Fried Tofu with Wasabi, Vinegar, and Soy Sauce

IT'S JUST LIKE GRAPE JUICE
GO AHEAD, TAKE A SIP.
.....

UGH.
IT'S BITTER
RIGHT, NOW EAT SOME OF THE FRIED TOFU.

She ended up making some-thing weird
FREE FOOD FROM ME AND SHI-NOBU.
HEY, SHINOBU, HERE

HEHEHE
WHAT'S WITH YOU? ALL IT TAKES IS EATING SOMETHING GOOD AND SUDDENLY YOU CAN'T STOP SMILING
YEAH, IT GOES WELL WITH THE ROSÉ
IT'S GOOD
YEAH?
OH YEAH, THERE WAS SOMETHING I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT EARLIER
NEXT IS... UM...
OKAY THIS TURNED OUT WELL.
HEY, I'M NOT EASY!
YOU'RE MAKING YOURSELF PRETTY EASY!
ALL THAT DOES IS MAKE IT EASY FOR GUYS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOU, YA KNOW
YOU'RE WEIRDLY SERIOUS WHEN IT COMES TO TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE, AREN'T YOU?
IT'S BEEN WORRYING ME


REALLY? BEFORE YOU START COOKING FOR YOUR GUY, BRING HIM DOWN TO MY BAR
ONCE YOU SEE A GUY GET DRUNK, YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS RIGHT AWAY.
RIYUKO, YOU CAN'T GET INTO A BAR UNTIL YOU'RE EIGHTEEN. AND ANYWAY, IT'S BAD FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS TO BE DRINKING.
HUH?!
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU GOING OUT WITH A HIGH SCHOOL KID FOR?!

IS THAT BRAT RICH OR SOMETHING? WHADDYA EVEN DO FOR FUN?
GET YOURSELF A MORE SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP, OKAY?
UM... I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL TOO, THOUGH

I'M USED TO SEEING GIRLS IN THEIR TWENTIES WALKING AROUND IN SCHOOL UNIFORMS OUTSIDE THE BAR, YOU KNOW!
SHE'S ALREADY DRUNK...!

.....?
OHH, THAT'S RIGHT-!
YOU'RE TOTALLY RIGHT!!

FOR THE NEXT DISH.
REMOVE THE SKIN AND PIT FROM AN AVOCADO AND MASH IT IN A BOWL
MIX THE DRAINED TOFU INTO THE AVOCADO AND SEASON WITH MINCED GREEN ONION, A BIT OF SESAME OIL, AND SALT.
MICROWAVE TOFU FOR A MINUTE INSIDE OF A PAPER TOWEL. THEN DRAIN IT.
HERE YOU GO
OH, ANOTHER QUICK ONE.
Tofu-Avocado Dip
THANK YOU.
MMM... YOU'RE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS
WOULDN'T THIS BE GOOD ON SOME BREAD?
OOH, IF WE'RE GONNA MAKE THE DIP ALL FANCY LIKE THAT, I'D BETTER OPEN UP THE WHITE WINE.
DIDN'T I BRING SOME SLICED FRENCH BREAD WITH ME? GET IT OUT!
HERE IT IS.

WHICH MEANS I NEED A THIRD DISH TO MAKE...
NOW THAT THE MEAT'S ABSORBED THE FLAVOR, PUT IT IN A STEAMER ON HIGH HEAT FOR ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES.
THE CHICKEN SHOULD BE ALMOST DONE PICKLING BY NOW
MMM, IT DOES GO WELL
AND SOME SOY SAUCE TO FINISH!
HEAT UP BUTTER IN A PAN AND THEN TOSS IN THE NAGAIMO! MAKE SURE TO FRY IT ON BOTH SIDES
PEEL IT AND CUT IT INTO ONE CM THICK SLICES
THIS NAGAIMO SHOULD BE PRETTY SIMPLE TO FRY
Nagaimo- also known as 'Chinese yam' The name literally means 'long yam'
IS THIS ONE JUST A BIG PILE OF NAGAIMO?
HERE YA GO.
Butter-Fried Nagaimo

OH, IT'S GOOD, THOUGH! AND IT REALLY SUITS THIS WINE
しゃく
しゃく
HEY, YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE SQUID OUT.
THERE'S SOME RAW SQUID, YOU KNOW.
BREAK IT OUT, I LOVE SQUID.
RIGHT, PRETTY SOON SHINOBU'S GONNA WANT TO START EATING TOO
I'LL MAKE SOME MISO SOUP
カシ
SPLIT UP THE YOLK AND WHITE OF AN EGG
革命
SWIRL THE EGG WHITE AROUND INTO THE FINISHED MISO SOUP...
ちゃ
革命
NOW TEAR UP SOME BAKED SEAWEED AND PUT IT AND THE RAW SQUID ON TOP OF RICE
DROP THE EGG YOLK INTO THE CENTER AND SPRINKLE SHREDDED GREEN SHISO ON TOP
革命
パラパラ

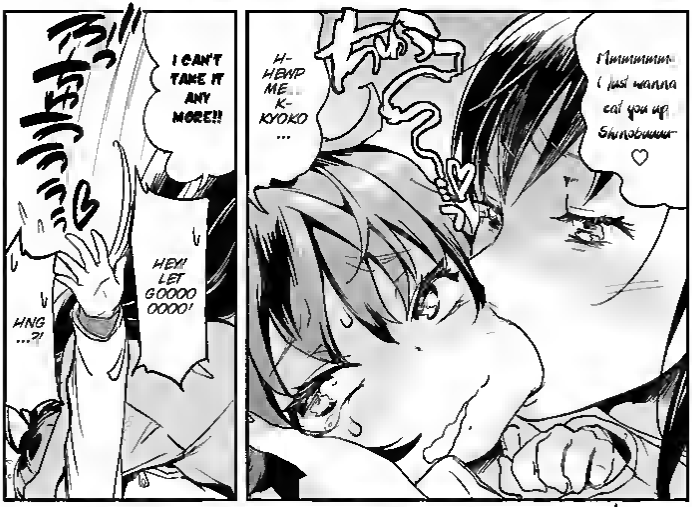
OKAY, SHINOBU, HERE'S YOURS
Squid Bowl with Egg White Miso Soup
ADD N SOY SAUCE AND EAT WHILE YOU STIR IT UP

WOAH, THAT LOOKS GOOD! HEY, I WANT SOME!
YEAH- OH, WAIT ONE SECOND
I NEED TO TAKE THE CHICKEN OUT OF THE STEAM

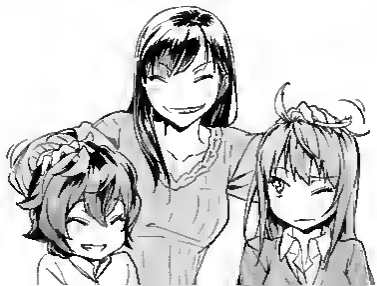
I JUST FINISHED THE MAIN DISH.
Red Chili Steamed Chicken
HMM
TRUE, IT'S A STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND SLIGHTLY STRANGE WAY OF FLIRTING, BUT EVEN SO, I'VE GOT A GOOD FEELING ABOUT YOUR COOKING

Ooh, so soft! Hnhn!
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME...?
HAVE YOU BEEN TRAINING TO BE A HOSTESS THIS WHOLE TIME?
AND NOW YOU'RE GIVING YOUR CUSTOMERS SOME NICE TREATMENT...
AREN'T YOU RUNNING YOUR OWN LITTLE SORT OF BAR IN HERE?
YOU KNOW, LOOKING AT IT AGAIN...
YOU'VE GOTTA BE BOTH CAUTIOUS AND BOLD
WHAT I MEAN IS, IF YOU WANNA TAKE CARE OF PEOPLE, YOU'VE GOTTA BECOME STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE IT.
.....
DOESN'T MATTER TO ME, 'SLONG AS YOU WORK HARD
FROM YOU?
I THINK RIYUKO JUST WENT FROM DRUNK TO *REALLY* DRUNK
I'M STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL, YOU KNOW. I WOULDN'T BE ANY HELP AT ALL
SPEAKING OF LITTLE BARS, I'VE GOT THIS GREAT PLAN TO SET UP SOMETHING LIKE A SET-MENU PLACE OR AN ODEN PLACE BETWEEN AKITSU AND SHINAKITSU STATION. WANNA RUN IT WITH ME?

Shinoooo buuuuu♡
Hey how 'bout a kiss from Ryuko huh? Huh?
C'mon, gimme yer cheek!
GEEZ
YOU SMELL LIKE ALCOHOL
Just a quickie okaaaaaay? Hey c'mon, c'mooooon!♡


Mmmmmm I just wanna eat you up Shinoooooo♡
H-HEWP ME... K-KYOKO...
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE!!
HEY! LET GOOOO OOOO!
WNG...?!

NOO OOO OOO OOO OOO OOO OOO OO!!
Ooooohh! You sound just like a girl when you scream! I can't wait to see how you turn out!
WHEN I GROW UP, I AM DEFINITELY NEVER, EVER GOING TO DRINK



# 姉のおなかをふくらませるのは僕

It is me to fill the stomach of my sister

Ane no Onaka wo Fukuramaseru no wa Boku

Translation and Editing: Xthen